MARVEL

13

LGY#977

KELLY
LARRAZ
GRACIA
ARCINIEGA

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

FEELS THE EFFECTS OF

IMPERIAL

RATED T

"***GAILEIA 3*** IS YOUR BASIC BIG-BOX SPACE SUBURB. A BORING PLANET FULL OF BORING PEOPLE LIVING BORING LIVES...

"...UNDER THE THUMB OF THE ***GOTHON CONGLOMERATE,*** WHO KEEP THE JOINT ON LOCK WHILE THEY PILLAGE THE PLANET'S RESOURCES.

"NO ONE GETS IN OR OUT OF THEIR ***CORPO-DEATH SATELLITE WEB*** WITHOUT PASSING THROUGH A CHECKPOINT.

"BUT EVER SINCE THE ***GALACTIC COUNCIL*** WENT TOES UP,* THEY DON'T KNOW THEIR #$%&# FROM THEIR ELBOWS.

"WE'LL FLY IN ALL LAW-ABIDING-LIKE...

* SEE **IMPERIAL** FOR MORE! --NEBULA NICK

"...I'LL SWEET-TALK THE BORDER JERKS 'CAUSE I SPEAK ***MONEY.***

"OUR ***BRIBE'LL*** CRUSH GOTHON WAGES, SO THEY'LL WAVE US THROUGH, FAT AND HAPPY...

"...AND WE'LL DELIVER OUR CARGO...

"...SIMPLE AND QUIET."

SLAM

"SIMPLE AND QUIET," ROCKET?

YEAH... I NEVER SHOULD HAVE PITCHED A BRIBE.

I LIKE ***KEEPIN'*** MONEY MORE THAN GIVIN' IT AWAY TO ***IDIOTS.***

DAT ONE'S ON ME.

PETER PARKER HAS THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER PARKER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. HE BECAME THE CRIMEFIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

PREVIOUSLY

Spider-Man was defeated in combat by HELLGATE, a being of unknown origin, and went missing afterward, leaving New York without Peter Parker and his web-slinging alter ego. In fact, Peter had been knocked LIGHT-YEARS INTO SPACE! After weeks spent starving, Peter was finally saved by DR. XANTO STARBLOOD, an extraterrestrial scientist. In response to his devastating loss, Peter wanted Dr. Starblood to make him stronger so, when he returned to Earth, he could defeat Hellgate for good. But their research was cut short when Peter discovered Starblood had been secretly experimenting on sentient beings! When the good doctor refused to release his "specimens," Peter sprang into action--with the help of his brand-new "technarachnid" suit!

PETER PARKER

ROCKET RACCOON

XANTO STARBLOOD

RAELITH THE WRETCHED

SYMBIE

Writer:
JOE KELLY

Artist:
PEPE LARRAZ

Color Artists:
MARTE GRACIA & ERICK ARCINIEGA

Letterer:
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

Cover Artists:
PEPE LARRAZ & MARTE GRACIA

Designer:
JAY BOWEN

Assistant Editor:
KAITLYN LINDTVEDT

Associate Editor:
TOM GRONEMAN

Editor:
NICK LOWE

Editor in Chief:
C.B. CEBULSKI

SPIDER-MAN created by STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

Variant Cover Artists:
LEE BERMEJO (AMAZING VISIONS); PERE PÉREZ & MORRY HOLLOWELL; J. GONZO (WHITE TIGER TEAM-UP); DAVE BARDIN (THE MUPPETS; ©DISNEY); VALERIO SCHITI & FRANK MARTIN

© 2025 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

THESE AIN'T THE USUAL GOTHON HIRES!

DON'T KNOW **WHO** THEY ARE, BUT THEY **FALL DOWN** REAL GOOD.

DON'T GET MAD... BUT ARE THOSE THE ***NONLETHAL*** ROUNDS?

YES! OF COURSE!

ASTERISK.

"ASTERISK"?!

THERE'S NO "ASTERISK" IN "NONLETHAL"!

WHAT IF A GUY IS ALLERGIC T' STUN ROUNDS? OR HAS A JANKY PACEMAKER?

OR JUST FAINTS 'CAUSE OF ALL THE EXCITEMENT AN' HIS SPLEEN FALLS OUT?

<DEFILERS! YOU WILL FALL BENEATH THE HAND OF-->

ASTERISK.

FEELS LIKE WE'RE BACKSLIDING HERE.

THWOK

A FEW DAYS AGO...

WE NEED TO KILL THAT #$%& #$%&--

--RIGHT #$%& NOW!

OKAY, ROCKET, I THINK YOU MADE YOUR CASE--

NOT HELPING, XANTO!

LISTEN TO YOUR MORE EVOLVED BETTERS, PROCYON LOSER--

#$%&!!!

PFFF. SUCH THIN SKIN. IT'S CLEVER WORDPLAY FOR THE BIOLOGICALLY INCLINED.

I KNOW YOU'RE FROM A CUSHY SOCIETY WITH LAWS THAT GIVE THE ILLUSION OF JUSTICE FOR ALL--

--THIS AIN'T THERE!

THAT SICK FLARK KIDNAPPED AND EXPERIMENTED ON US! THAT'S A TRIGGER FOR ME, IN CASE YOU FORGOT!

EVERYONE HERE KNOWS YOU DON'T KEEP A #$%& LIKE THAT IN THE SHIP--YOU KICK HIM OUT THE AIR LOCK!

MAY I... AHEM.

MAY I SPEAK?

I AM *RAELITH OF THE WRETCHED*...AND... AHEM.

FORGIVE ME, I HAVE NOT USED MY VOICE IN SOME TIME...

I BELIEVE THAT THE LITTLE HUMAN IS RIGHT.

WE ARE *NOT* ANIMALS. WE ARE HIGHLY EVOLVED BEINGS OF INTELLIGENCE AND IMAGINATION...

EXACTLY. WE CAN COME UP WITH AN ALTERNATIVE TO MURDER!

BLEEDIN' FLARKIN' HEARTS...

DEATH IS TOO *COMPASSIONATE* FOR DR. STARBLOOD.

I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE *TORTURE* COMBINED WITH LIFE-*EXTENDING* MEASURES.

FLAYING OF THE FLESH IS AN EASY OPENER, BUT I BELIEVE WE HAVE THE RESOURCES TO INTRODUCE NERVE-EATING PARASITES INTO HIS BLOODSTREAM.

I LIKE HER! OH, BOY, DO I LIKE HER!

NO IDEAS ARE BAD IDEAS... EXCEPT PROBABLY TORTURE...

ANYONE ELSE?

NOW.

HA HA!

YOUR CHILDREN'S *CHILDREN* WILL FEEL THAT ONE.

IF YOUR REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS STILL FUNCTION!

<WE DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE! THEY'RE TRYING TO SLIP THE BLOCKADE--!>

<TELL THE GREAT ONE NOW!!!>

TOYS.

HEH.

SPEED TO THE BEYOND, UNDERLING! HRRAGH!

RAELITH!

A FEW NOTES. GOOD JOB DISPATCHING BAD GUYS... BUT THAT FINISHING MOVE WAS LOOKING...

PERMANENT?

...

YOU ARE... DISPLEASED.

<SHE TRIED TO KILL ME!>

YOU *REGRET* ALLOWING ME THE PRIVILEGE OF JOINING THIS PARTY...

THWUPPT

NO! NO-- YOU'RE DOING GREAT. I'M JUST MAKING SURE NO ONE, LIKE... *DIES.*

YOU THINK I SHOULD *DIE.*

NO! WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?

"I *RESCUED* YOU... *ALL* OF YOU..."

THEN.

TO A ONE, YOU WERE ABANDONED, ADRIFT...

...DYING... OR *CRAVING* DEATH.

IF YOUR LIVES WERE FORFEIT AMONG *YOUR OWN*...THEY COULD AT LEAST COUNT FOR *SCIENCE.*

I AUTHORED *MEANING* OUT OF THE CHAOS OF YOUR LIVES.

YOU CAN'T *HIJACK* SOMEONE'S LIFE JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE IN TROUBLE, XANTO--

--ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE IN TROUBLE!

IT WORKED OUT FOR *YOU.*

AND THERE'S MORE TO BE DONE IF YOU DON'T CATER TO THE WHIMS OF THE *UNWASHED* AND *UNLOVED.*

SO, THEN! SLOW AGONIZING TORTURE TILL WE GET BORED AND *THEN* A FAST TRIP OUT THE AIR LOCK? ALL AGREED--?!

WAIT--!

OVERRULED OR WHATEVER!

HAVE YOU GUYS LOOKED AT THIS TREE?

LIKE...REALLY *BATHED* IN ITS PRESENCE?

THE TREE IS SO... *CHILL.*

LIKE... IT'S *HERE,* IN A METAL BOX HURTLING THROUGH THE BLACKNESS OF SPACE.

SURROUNDED BY OUR VERY *NEGATIVE* VIBES...

...BUT IT'S STILL *GROWING*, EVEN THOUGH IT CAN'T PUT DOWN ROOTS.

ANGER IS THE METAL BOX WE'RE IN. ALL THIS NEGATIVITY AND CATERWAULING IS ONLY GONNA MAKE THE BOX ***THICKER*** AND TRAP US.

THE HAIRLESS EARTH MAMMAL IS RIGHT...LET'S GET OUR ROOTS BACK.

I DON'T THINK SO... I MEAN, I GOT INTO THE ***MEDS*** AS SOON AS I WAS FREE...BUT--

--WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

WHETHER OR NOT TO EXTINGUISH THE GREATEST MIND FOR ***37.8 LIGHT-YEARS*** IN ANY DIRECTION.

OH! WAIT, ***YOU'RE*** XANTO...?

SORRY! SORRY...I-- NEVER MIND.

WE NEED TO TOAST THIS DUDE.

NIAL! ARE YOU ***OUT OF YOUR GOURD?!***

DR. XANTO STARBLOOD. YOUR SAVIOR.

TORTURING WAS A REALLY ***SWEET*** IDEA, MISS RAELITH. I'M JUST, LIKE, IMPATIENT.

THANK YOU FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, ***NIAL.***

NOW.

NICE WORK WITH THE VIOLENCE, EVERYONE... *UM...*

...BUT WE SHOULD WRAP THIS UP AND MAKE OUR DELIVERY BEFORE, Y'KNOW...

...BAD STUFF HAPPENS?

THE CRETIN IS CORRECT. WE SHOULD HAVE STAYED WITH ***SUBTERFUGE.*** THESE ARE NOT SIMPLE PORT GUARDS.

PERHAPS IF YOU LOOSEN MY "DEATH BELT," I--

JUST MAKE WITH THE PUNCHY PUNCHY AN' KEEP YOUR OPINIONS TO YOURSELF, DR. LIPSCHITZ.

OR YOU-KNOW-WHAT GOES ***GROUND CHUCK.*** WON'T KILL YA, BUT I PROMISE IT'LL HURT SO GOOD.

YOU ARE A *FILTHY* DELINQUENT...

...BUT I ***RESPECT*** YOUR COMFORT WITH TERROR AS A DETERRENT.

FEELS LIKE THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO GET OUR PRECIOUS CARGO TO THE PLANET'S SURFACE?

OR...ANOTHER GOOD IDEA--THE WAREHOUSE WHERE THEY STORE ALL THE ***CONTRABAND*** IS RIGHT THERE--

THE SADISTIC RODENT'S THESIS *INTRIGUES--*

HEY, GUYS? SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT...

...SOMETHING'S HEADING YOUR WAY.

I AM TRYING TO BUILD *ORDER* IN A WORLD TORN ASUNDER BY WAR AND CHAOS.

YET...MY ACOLYTES ARE FELLED...BY *TRASH.*

TRULY THIS WORLD REQUIRES A *CULLING* IF IT IS TO THRIVE.

SURRENDER... OR KNOW A PAIN WRITTEN OF ONLY IN THE FORBIDDEN SONGS OF THE SHI'AR.

MINI-BOSS TIME--

THAT IS ONE OF THE *BLACK ORDER.*

SO...?

THE DISCIPLES OF *THANOS...* PERHAPS YOU'RE FAMILIAR?

WHICH IS WHY WE NEED TO HIT FAST AND HARD ON MY MARK--

BLACK DWARF! FORGIVE THE INTRUSION OF THIS WRETCHED ONE.

GET ME OUT OF THESE EXPLOSIVE PANTS AND I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT.

I MEAN *ANYTHING,* BIG MAN--

SHUT UP, XANT-ASS...

BUT ALSO, I AM OPEN TO NEGOTIATION. I HARDLY KNOW THESE PEOPLE.

HEH. YOU KNOW YOUR PLACE... GOOD.

THE *WEAK* LIVE ONLY DUE TO THE *MERCY* OF THE *STRONG.*

"SO, THAT'S IT?! JUST KILL HIM TO FEEL BETTER?"

THEN.

'CAUSE THAT SOUNDS LIKE WE'RE JUST...THE LAB *ANIMALS* HE THINKS WE ARE.

XANTO IS A MONSTER. WE'RE AGREED ON THAT.

NOTHING WILL *MAKE UP* FOR WHAT HE'S DONE TO YOU.

BUT THERE CAN BE JUSTICE *WITHOUT* TORTURE OR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

THE COUNCIL FELL, MAN! IT'S WAR ACROSS THE GALAXY--ACROSS *GALAXIES!*

THE ONLY *JUSTICE* WE'RE GONNA SEE IS THE ONE WE MAKE.

"JUSTICE" IS A REFLECTION OF WHO'S IN POWER.

THAT'S *US* NOW... ALL OF US. WHAT DOES *OUR* JUSTICE LOOK LIKE?

EYE FOR AN EYE? VENGEANCE? PAIN AND DEATH?

OR *MERCY*... THE OPPORTUNITY TO SET THINGS RIGHT?

A *NEW BEGINNING* FOR EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM?

EVEN THOSE OF US WHO AREN'T SURE WE *DESERVE* IT?

YOU TALK PRETTY, KID...AND I HEAR YOU... I **DO**.

BUT I **KNOW** GUYS LIKE THIS.

THE **SECOND** WE LET OUR GUARD DOWN, IT'S ALL THE KNIVES IN ALL THE BACKS.

THEN I GUESS I'LL JUST KEEP MY GUARD UP.

LONG AS IT TAKES.

DOES... DOES THAT MEAN YOU ARE OUR LEADER?

I--

SPLIT

WHAT THE--?!

SHEE HEE HEESSH--

I HATE SYMBIOTES.

IF YOU'RE SKIPPING RIGHT TO BOWING...

...LEMME YOINK THIS FOR A SEC?

NOW.

THWAP

OOP!

OH... I LIKED THAT WEAPON.

DO YOU THINK HE'LL GIVE THAT BACK?

WHAT A FOOL.

YEAH. KID'S CRAZY...

SAVED *YOUR* ASS THOUGH, COWARD.

NEVER YOU MIND.

HEH. SPIRITED...

SHOW ME.

BRAVERY IS RARE...ESPECIALLY IN TIMES SUCH AS THESE.

BUT YOUR DEATH WILL BE MEANINGLESS, SMALL ONE...

WHICH "SMALL ONE"?

MAKE A MESS, SYMBIE!

SHEE HEH HEHE HEE!

SPLORCH

HEHEHE HE HEHE!

WHEN YOU'RE UP ON YOUR PEDESTAL...

...EVERYONE LOOKS SMALL.

THAT'S A FAILURE OF PERSPECTIVE...

HNNGH--

THWIP

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE CALLED MY PEOPLE "TRASH."

YOU-- GLUCCH!

LET'S SEE IF YOUR INSIDE'S AS TOUGH AS YOUR OUTSIDE.

TECHNO-ORGANIC TENDRILS...

...CONDUCTING ENERGY RIGHT DOWN YOUR THROAT.

GLAH-HA-HEE!

ZZZAK

HRRRRRR--

POKE.

WE KNEW YOU HAD IT.

IT WAS A STATISTICAL CERTAINTY THAT YOU WOULD LOSE. I STAND BY MY DECISION.

CAN I HAVE MY WEAPON BACK?

LET'S MOVE.

AFTER A QUICK VISIT TO THE *CONTRABAND LOCKER.* BET THERE'S STUFF THERE FOLKS NEED.

FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SMUGGLER, PLEASE, ROCKET.

CAREFUL, WEBS...YOU'RE STARTING TO SOUND LIKE A SMUGGLER.

"I...I'M NOT A LEADER.

"I'M JUST *ONE OF YOU* OUT HERE...ANOTHER *LOST ALIEN.*

"BUT I PROMISE YOU THIS...

"...I'LL FIGHT FOR YOU. EVERY ONE OF YOU.

"PROTECT YOU AS BEST I CAN AND TAKE YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO GO.

"SO YOU CAN GET BACK TO LIVING.

"THAT'S THE JUSTICE YOU DESERVE...

CARGO...

...DELIVERED.

"...FREEDOM TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU WANT...

"...WITHOUT FEAR THAT SOMEONE CAN JUST TAKE EVERYTHING AWAY."

SO, THIS IS HOW IT'S GONNA WORK?

DO-GOODING ACROSS THE UNIVERSE UNTIL XANTO OR BLACK DWARF OR SOME OTHER MONSTROSITY KILLS US?

I'M LOST IN SPACE, ROCKET. I HAVE NO CLUE HOW IT'S GOING TO WORK.

TODAY, I'M JUST HAPPY WE DID GOOD.

I GUESS. UNLESS ONE OF THE ALIENS WE RETURN HOME'S A SERIAL KILLER. THEN WE ROYALLY #$%& UP.

HEH... TRUTH.

SO WHY DON'T YOU WANNA GO HOME?

I-- OF COURSE I--

THAT'S WHY WE'RE DROPPIN' OFF ALL THE MISFITS INSTEAD OF MAKIN' FOR THE NEAREST STARGATE?

WHAT HAPPENED BACK ON EARTH?

WHY HAVEN'T YOU CALLED QUILL OR DRAX OR GROOT?

...

YOU'RE A #$%&. MUST COME WITH THE NAME "PETER."

SHEE-HHH-HSSSSSHHH!

SYMBIE--NO-- WHOULFF!!!

HA! GOOD LUCK FINDIN' ANY BRAINS IN THERE, IDIOT!

IMA STOOPID UGLY LOOSER:

RIGHT ON TIME.

FINISHED FEEDING THE TROOPS THEIR PORTION OF "JUSTICE FOR ALL"?

I MEANT WHAT I SAID, XANTO. I DON'T WANT TO SEE ***ANYONE*** DIE.

EVEN ***YOU.***

BECAUSE YOU ARE SUCH A BLESSED HEART?

BECAUSE I WANT TO GO HOME TOO... BUT I CAN'T...

...UNTIL YOU MAKE ME ***STRONGER.***

SHALL WE GET BACK TO WORK?

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE SPIDER'S WEB

ASSISTANT EDITOR: **KAITLYN LINDTVEDT**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: **TOM GRONEMAN**
EDITOR: **NICK LOWE**

HELLO WEB-HEADS!

It's your friendly neighborhood associate editor, Tom, and assistant editor, Kaitlyn, here--we may or may not have lightly borrowed the letters off Nick's desk this week. What?! We wanted to say hi to y'all for a change! It's fiiiiine.

ANYWAY, Xanto certainly got the better end of his possible deals here, huh? Thirteen must be his lucky number. Does having a lucky issue #13 in October make Xanto a black cat? Are Peter and his friends actually witches??? Is Kaitlyn just WAY too excited for Halloween? Who's to say? You speak now!

Hey folks at the Spidey-Office!

I'm a newbie to comics, but I've been a Spider-Fan for years. I recently picked up AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #971 and decided to start from there. I've just finished reading #973 and am loving it! I appreciate how easy to follow yet exhilarating the story is. Thanks for giving me a great start in my comic-loving journey.

Be well,
Evan

Tommy G. here! Every comic could be someone's first, and we endeavor to make each issue as accessible and compelling as possible for our first-time readers! Thrilled that you dove back into the Spider side of the Marvel U with the blockbuster smackdown that is Spidey vs. Hellgate!

Hey Spidey-Office,

ASM #9 was an interesting read. I feel like we missed so much between issues. Last issue, Spider-Man appeared to be punched to death, and this issue, he sounds and looks like he is running on autopilot while healing and is in a kind of depressed state of mind. I say that because it seems like the only thing that would make Peter turn his back on Mary Jane like that when she needed him. I'm sure the next issue or two will make things clear to me, but until then, this issue under-delivered for me. Looking forward to the next issue--I really want to see more of Peter's reaction to the MJ/Venom relationship. Till next time, keep up the hard work!

Keep Swinging,
Matt Roberts
Fort Carson, CO

I hope you keep reading, Matt--because I have a feeling the next few issues will deliver on what you're hoping for! And the time jump between #8 and #9 is for sure part of the (I hope) fun. All will be revealed--and I don't think anyone will see it coming!

And, finally (for now), waaayyyy back in ASM #1, we printed one--that's right, just one--fan letter. Said fan wrote in asking to be printed in an ASM issue in April for his birthday (the big 5-0!), and, honestly, who could refuse a request like that? Certainly not us! Well, he's BACK to let us know how life has been since then--take it away, Lee!

Hello fellow Web-Heads,

I want to first start off by saying that I was beyond exhilarated when I saw my letter printed in the letters page for ASM #1. It was a surreal moment for me to finally get to see a letter of mine in the letters page of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and still remains something that makes me giddy when thinking about it. I wanted to write back in with an update on what's happened since that issue came out. I had no idea it was going to be printed, and when I saw that it was, I went around telling everyone. The first to know were the workers at the comic shops I go to. I was showing them the page, and I bought all their copies--regular, variants, and incentives. By the end of the day, I had spread the word to everyone I could, and by the next day, I was interviewed and put on one of the local news stations in Charlotte, NC. Yes, that's right--my story of my first letter in the ASM letters page was made into a news story that aired for the rest of the week at different times. By the end of the week, I had to get copies for family members, friends, and co-workers who all wanted me to tell the story and to sign it for them. While on my trip to Paris, I stopped at two comic shops, where I was pleased to tell them about my story and the letter in the letters page. They promptly asked me to show them, which, of course, I did, and for that moment in time, ASM brought people from two countries together for laughter and joy over my letter.

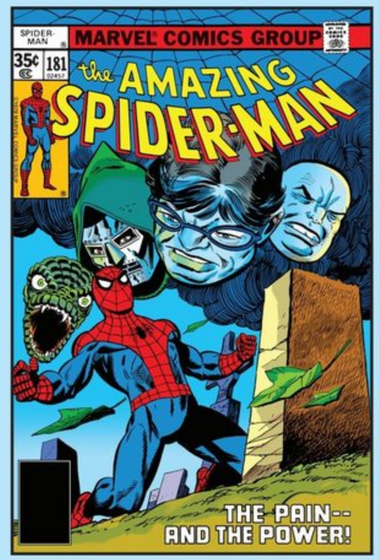
My story does not end there--with all the excitement and hubbub of it, I got to share my joy with some of the creators of the very same issue. In June, there's a convention here in Charlotte called HeroesCon. It's by far the best comic book con that I've ever been to, and this year was one of the best years for me because of my letter. I got to meet Joe Kelly, John Romita Jr., Scott Hanna, Greg Land, and the great Gerry Conway and have all of them sign, and a few sketch on, the blank cover. I know Gerry Conway wasn't part of this particular issue, but having his name alongside the others was something I couldn't pass up, and he did a little doodle as well. I spent the whole three days at the con going from line to line--some lines took four hours to get through, but at the end of the weekend, I had a comic with five signatures and four pieces of art put on the cover, making this one of my favorite books. Maybe I'll add a sketch of my own to the bottom corner, or maybe one day get Pepe Larraz to sketch and sign it.

I've been enjoying this new run of ASM and this new villain--or is he a villain?--Hellgate. I mean, with a name like Hellgate, he can't be all good. And then there's the ax and the glowing crack-like lines in his body--none of these say hero or good guy, but I could be wrong, except for the beating he gave Spidey. And who is this dude Hermes? Is he the Hermes of myth? Is he here to herald in the coming of Hellgate, and if so, what is the message he is bringing? And who is this new guy, Captain Kintsugi? I know, keep reading, which I will--but is he from where Hellgate is from and he's here to actually be the hero to help fight against Hellgate? His armor looks like it has similar cracks in it to the ones that Hellgate's has, just without the glowing part. Keep up the great work, and I can't wait to see what happens with issue #1000. Oh man, I hope it's going to be a huge issue, and I know it wouldn't be done, but how awesome would a one-thousand-page issue for issue #1000 be?

Always page-thwipping,
Lee Michael Roberts

We're SO thrilled that your letter was the spark to ignite an amazing series of journeys for you, Lee. We share your love for not only the stories but the writers, artists, and the creators who pour their hearts and souls into each and every miracle of a comic. One thousand pages for ASM #1000--RATIFIED! Don't tell Nick Lowe!

Keep Thwippin'!
(and stay safe)!
Tom & Kaitlyn



My first Spider-Man comic was ASM #181 in 1978, right from a spinner rack in our local drug store. Titled "Flashback," it retold Spidey's story right from his origin through to that moment in time. It highlighted Spidey's main villains, love interests, friends, and other major players. It acknowledged key events, such as the deaths of Gwen Stacy and her father, Captain Stacy. More importantly, it demonstrated why Peter Parker continued to be Spider-Man despite all the difficulties and misery he'd faced. I related to Peter. Like Peter, over the years, I've had my ups and downs but tried to be a good person and do the right thing. I jumped into collecting after getting #181. After over forty years, I'm happy to have almost completed the ASM run, missing only #1. It all started with #181, the perfect launching point.

--Richard Zaric

Email us at **SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** and mark your messages **"Okay to Print"** for a chance to see them answered in future issues!

SPIDERS & SYMBIOTES

THE LOWE-DOWN

WEB-HEADS!

It's the spookiest month, and it's spooky how much awesome Spider-Stuff we have! ERIK LARSEN RETURNS! This time as writer of SPIDER-MAN NOIR #1 alongside artist ANDREA BROCCARDO to bring you to pulp heaven as a new femme fatale enters Peter Parker, P.I.'s office—GWEN STACY! Just in time to get to know this gumshoe before *Spider-Noir* comes out! J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI is back, too, for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: TORN! You know JMS has revolutionary Spider-Ideas, and this time, they take him and artist extraordinaire PERE PÉREZ to circa ASM #50 days! MARVEL KNIGHTS: PUNISHER brings superstars JIMMY PALMIOTTI and DAN PANOSIAN to the MK celebration with a wild take on Frank tying into THE WORLD TO COME! Don't miss VENOM #250 where AL EWING and CARLOS GÓMEZ are joined by TERRY DODSON and TODD NAUCK to bring you a cover-to-cover FIRE FEST (not Fyre Fest), including the return of the villain of the decade…KNULL!!! See, that got spookier as it went!

Keep Thwippin',
Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor

THIS MONTH'S HOST

NAME: Tom Groneman

TITLE: Associate Editor

WORKS ON:
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN,
MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN,
BLACK CAT & MORE!

WHO IS YOUR IRL SUPER HERO?

Hard to pick just one! My teachers growing up. Journalists, especially those on the front lines. Above all, my ma, Josephine.

WHICH SPIDER-MAN VILLAIN DO YOU MOST RESONATE WITH?

Oh, gosh, it's changed over the years. Venom rules. "Kraven's Last Hunt" might be the best Marvel story ever. Lately, it's sins-removed, good-guy Norman Osborn, believe it or not! I find myself pretty consistently rooting for Norman over our heroes! Twisted, I know.

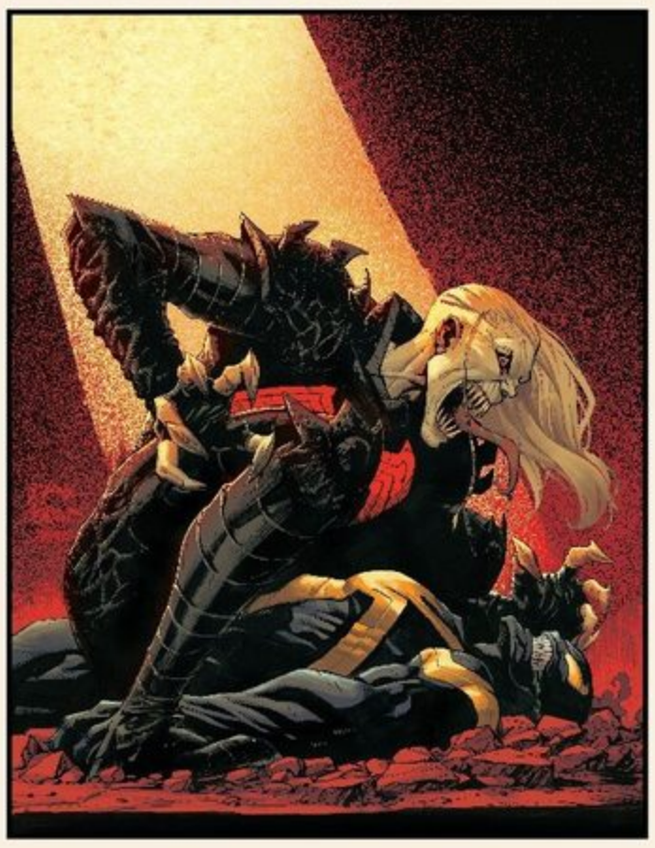
IF YOU COULD GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Embrace your fear. Take risks. Use your most unrelenting passion as a north star, always. That's three pieces of advice, I suppose…

NEED YOUR SPIDER-FIX WHILE YOU WAIT FOR NEXT ISSUE?

THWIP-LIST

- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #13
- ❑ SPIDER-MAN NOIR #1
- ❑ VENOM #250



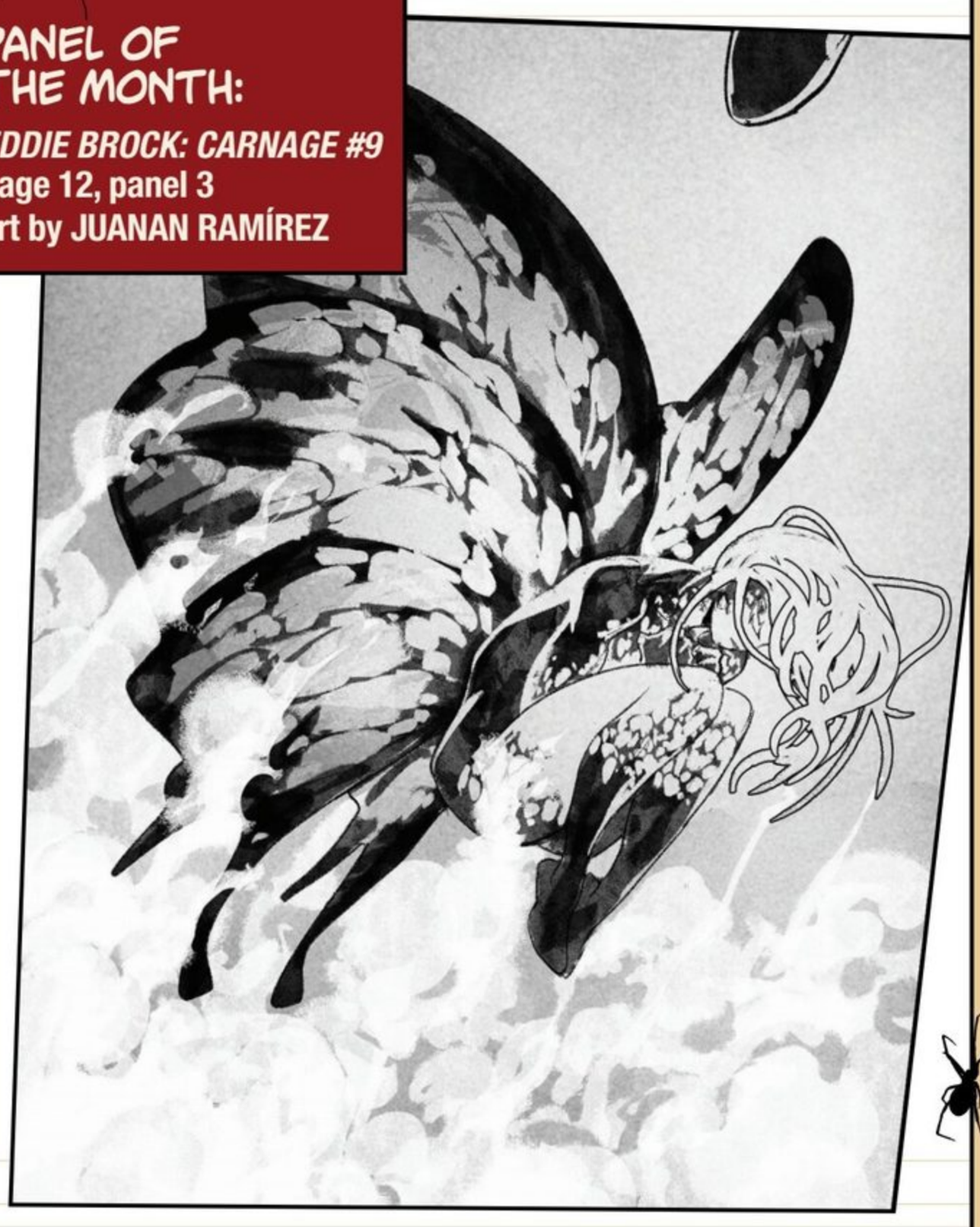
- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: TORN #1
- ❑ EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #9
- ❑ MARVEL KNIGHTS: PUNISHER #1
- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #14
- ❑ DEATH OF THE SILVER SURFER #5
- ❑ JEFF THE LAND SHARK #5
- ❑ MARVEL ZOMBIES: RED BAND #2
- ❑ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #39
- ❑ RADIOACTIVE SPIDER-MAN #1

- ❑ SPIDER-GIRL #5
- ❑ ALL-NEW SPIDER-GWEN: THE GHOST-SPIDER #3
- ❑ BLACK CAT #3
- ❑ CLOAK OR DAGGER #1
- ❑ MARVEL KNIGHTS: THE WORLD TO COME #5
- ❑ MARVEL RIVALS: KING IN BLACK #1

EMERALD BENSADOUN, **KAITLYN LINDTVEDT** & **KAEDEN McGAHEY** - Assistant Editors
MARTIN BIRO & **TOM GRONEMAN** - Associate Editors **JORDAN D. WHITE** - Senior Editor
NICK LOWE - Executive Editor

PANEL OF THE MONTH:

EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #9
page 12, panel 3
art by JUANAN RAMÍREZ



EDGE OF THE VARIANT-VERSE

We in the Spider-Office are no stranger to variants, we've got a Spider-Verse full of 'em. It's hard to narrow it down, but check out our favorite variant cover of the month.

DEATH OF THE SILVER SURFER #5
Variant Cover by CLAUDIO CASTELLINI

GAMMA CORNER

IS HE SPIDER, OR IS HE SYMBIOTE...OR IS HE NEITHER?

IT ALL COMES TO THIS.

The Hulk has been facing off against servants of Eldest for some time now, as the ancient evil seeks to free the Mother of All Horrors and return the world to the time of monsters. Finally, the time has come. Eldest versus Hulk for the fate of everything...

AND IT'S NOT GOING TO GO THE WAY YOU EXPECT.

INCREDIBLE HULK #30
On sale 10/15

CHECK OUT:

Miles defends Brooklyn Visions Academy from the Frost Pharaoh's icy revenge!

MARVEL UNLIMITED

MARVEL

CONGRATULATES THE 2025

WILL EISNER HALL OF FAME

HONOREES

JOHN ROMITA JR.
ARTIST

JOE MANEELY
ARTIST

KYLE BAKER
ARTIST

STEPHEN BISSETTE
ARTIST

EDDIE CAMPBELL
ARTIST

TODD KLEIN
LETTERER

BOB OKSNER
WRITER/ARTIST

BOB POWELL
ARTIST

PHIL SEULING
WRITER

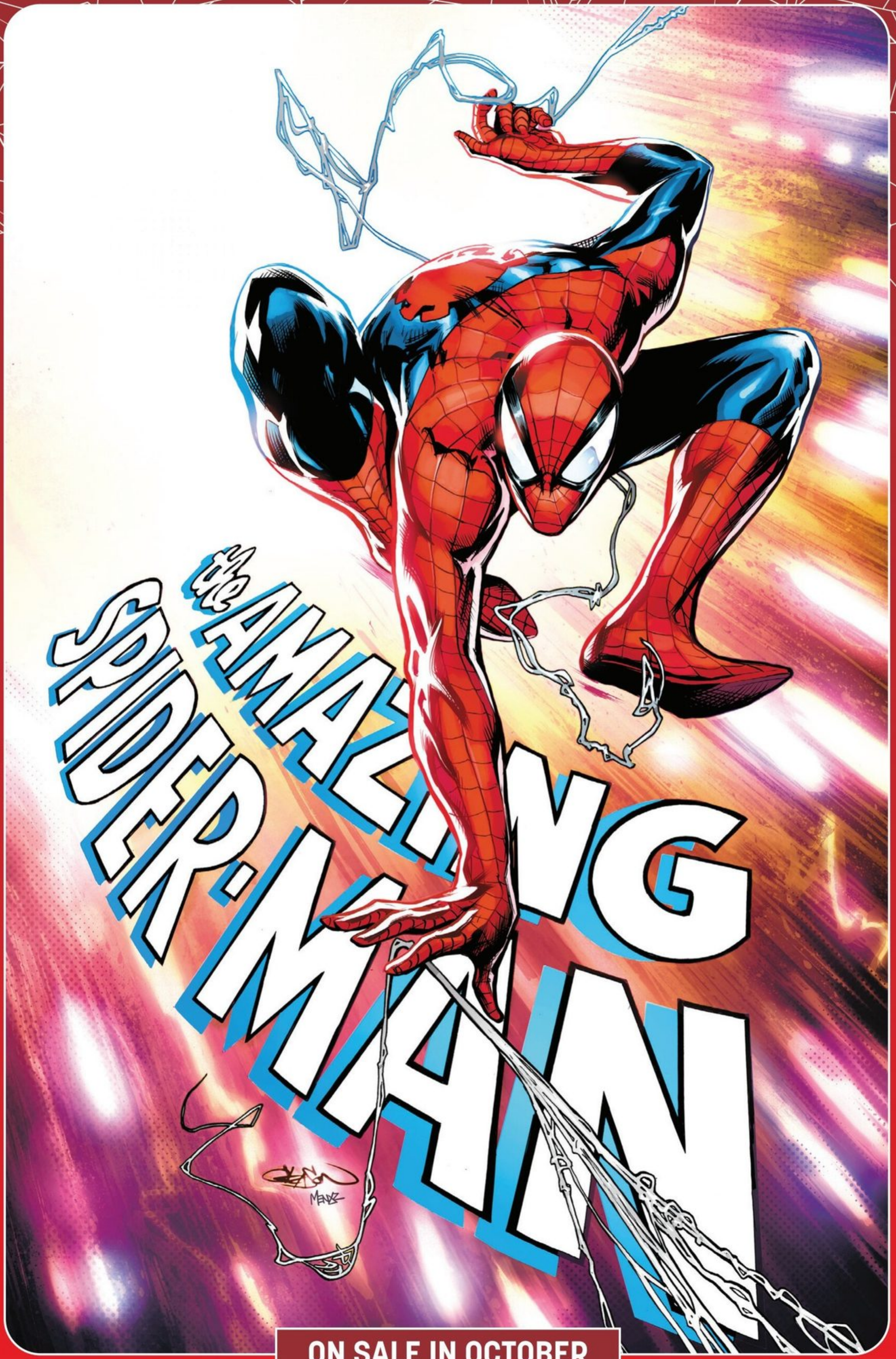
ANGELO TORRES
ARTIST

BILL FINGER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMIC BOOK WRITING

DON GLUT

© 2025 MARVEL

NEXT: #14



ON SALE IN OCTOBER